

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-19

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DRC-01 /091 W

----- 073487

R 071845Z JUN 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECDEF WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6182

CSAF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3222

E.O. 11652: GDS, 31-12-80

TAGS: NATO, MILI

SUBJECT: DRAFT DECISION SHEET, AC/259-DS/13, OF CNAD 24-26

APRIL 74 MEETING

SECDEF WASHDC FOR ODDRE (MR R. BASIL)

CSAF WASHDC FOR RDQSD

1. REFERENCE US COMMENTS ON SUBJECT DRAFT DECISION SHEET HANDCARRIED TO MISSION BY L/C EDWARDS (ODDR&E) ON 4 JUNE.

2. THREE OF THE COMMENTS CONCERN INTRODUCING THE SPECIFIC TERMS "AWACS" IN SUBPARAGRAPHS (A), (B), AND (F) OF PARAGRAPH II(D)(3), PAGES 9 AND 10 IN CONNECTION WITH SEVERAL ONGOING SHAPE, STC, AND NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING (AEW) STUDIES AND INVESTIGATIONS.

3. RECOMMEND THESE THREE US RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE DECISION SHEET BE WITHDRAWN FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS.

(A) OF ALL THE NATO BODIES LOOKING AT AEW,
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ONLY THE NAFAG SPECIAL TASK GROUP (STG) DEALS EXCLUSIVELY WITH AWACS, AND THERE IS STILL SOME CONTROVERSY OVER WHETHER THIS WAS THE ORIGINAL INTENT OF THE CNAD WHEN IT SET UP THE STG.

(B) THREE SYSTEMS HAVE BEEN OFFICIALLY PROPOSED AS COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS FOR A NATO AEW SYSTEM. NO NATO BODY HAS YET SELECTED OR RECOMMENDED A PREFERRED SYSTEM FROM AMONG THESE THREE.

(C) THE SHAPE OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS, CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS AND RELATED STUDIES FOR A NATO AEW SYSTEM, MUST BE GENERAL AND BASED ON MILITARY NEEDS. THE COST EFFECTIVENESS OF PARTICULAR CANDIDATE SYSTEMS WILL THEN BE EVALUATED IN RELATION TO THE RESULTING REQUIREMENTS. GRANTED, THE AWACS IS USED AS AN EXAMPLE IN MANY OF THE EFFECTIVENESS AND OTHER STUDIES, BUT ANY ATTEMPT TO BASE NATO MILITARY REQUIREMENTS AND ANCILLARY EFFORTS LEADING TO REQUIREMENTS ON A PARTICULAR SYSTEM RATHER THAN THE OTHER WAY AROUND WILL MEET WITH VERY SERIOUS RESISTANCE, IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO BE UNSUCCESSFUL, AND WOULD ENDANGER THE PROSPECTS FOR A FAVORABLE AWACS DECISION. RUMSFELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO03222
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS, 31-12-80
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740687/abbryvlz.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <31-Oct-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DRAFT DECISION SHEET, AC/259-DS/13, OF CNAD 24-26 APRIL 74 MEETING
TAGS: NATO, MILI
To: SECDEF INFO STATE
CSAF
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005